

# EAST COUNTY FIRE & RESCUE

## Board of Fire Commissioners Meeting

October 20, 2009

### **CALL TO ORDER:**

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Gary Larson at 7:00 PM at Station 91.

The following were in attendance: John Clancy, Gary Larson, Vic Rasmussen; Scott Koehler, Bob Jacobs, Dean Thornberry; Greg Anderson, Brad Baldwin, Mike Carnes, Paula Knapp, Rick Knapp, Martha Martin, and Sheldon Tyler.

### **AGENDA ADJUSTMENTS:**

Commissioner Larson sought adjustments to the Agenda.

There were none.

### **CONSENT AGENDA:**

- ◆ Approval of January 6, 2009 Financial Report
- ◆ Excuse Commissioners Cox and Goodnight.

**MOTION (by Rasmussen): To approve the Consent Agenda. SECONDED (by Clancy). Passed Unanimously.**

### **OPEN TO THE PUBLIC:**

Martha Martin, a resident of the Fire District, noted that she had called Chief Koehler to obtain background information about the City of Washougal's proposed water tank—which could be located next to the Mt. Norway Fire Station. She appreciated the information that was shared with her by Staff.

### **CORRESPONDENCE:**

DNR—Appreciation for Assistance with the Jackson 3 Fire. The DNR thanked East County Fire & Rescue for their efforts at the October 11<sup>th</sup> wildfire near Jackson Pass.

Washington Survey and Rating Bureau—Re-Evaluation of Fire District. The Fire District will be visited, sometime during the week of November 9<sup>th</sup>, for Public Protection Classification (re-rating). Such visits occur randomly to ensure that each Fire Agency is properly classified.

### **CHIEF OFFICER REPORTS:**

Fire Chief – Chief Koehler discussed the Fire District's efforts in support of the County-wide H1N1 flu pandemic. Almost all Staff Members have assisted the Regional Health Department in managing the flu incident or delivering H1N1 flu vaccine to Emergency Responders over the last couple of weeks.

The Chief also described the Jackson 3 Fire that occurred during the evening hours of October 11<sup>th</sup>. Assistance came from throughout Clark County and Skamania County to battle a 3 acre fire that was wind-driven to 30 acres prior to DNR's arrival.

**Commissioner Larson offered the Board’s heartfelt “Thanks!” to everyone involved in battling this blaze and/or staffing stations to ensure response readiness. It is obvious that this was a big event—fast-moving and dangerous. The Board is pleased to know that no injuries occurred to any personnel.**

Assistant Chiefs

Chief Jacobs reviewed his written report.

Chief Thornberry reviewed his written report.

**VOLUNTEER FIRE FIGHTERS ASSOCIATION:**

Brad Baldwin, Volunteer Fire Fighter’s Association Liaison, reported that the Basic Fire Fighter Academy is going very well. There are a dozen outstanding New Member Candidates enrolled in the eight-week training course. Additionally, Baldwin thanked the Board for allowing him to travel to Baltimore to represent the Fire District at the Residential Fire Sprinkler ballot held by the International Code Council.

**MISCELLANEOUS REPORTS:**

There were no miscellaneous reports.

**FIRE DISTRICT BUSINESS:**

EMS Response Billing – Debt Forgiveness. There were no issues to discuss tonight.

Bear Prairie Satellite Station. All documentation has been submitted to Clark County to obtain the Building Permit necessary to grandfather all structural changes made to the Bear Prairie House by the previous owner. The Architects are due to submit the paperwork to the County to seek a Building Permit for the shed.

FEMA AFG Exercise Equipment Bids. No one from the Exercise Equipment Committee was present at tonight’s Regular Board Meeting. They will be re-invited to the November 3<sup>rd</sup> Meeting to discuss their finding from the Equipment Bid—and to make a recommendation for possible purchase of equipment to support an in-house Health and Wellness Program.

Lighting Bids for Station 94. Chief Thornberry requested Clark PUD perform energy audits on ECFR Fire Stations. From those audits, Station 94 qualified for an Energy Saving Rebate—to offset the cost of replacing old, inefficient fluorescent light fixtures. Five contractors were contacted for bids. One declined our request for a bid. One did not visit the station. One did a walk-through but submitted no bid. Two sent bids—Columbia Electric for \$5,729.64; Mofford Electric for \$5,989.00 plus WST. PUD estimates that energy savings from the new light fixtures will pay-off installation costs in approximately 2.4 years.

Chief Thornberry would like to award the bid to Columbia Electric—the Low Bidder. However, their owner just died in a fishing accident off the Oregon Coast. Columbia does not know if they will remain in business. Therefore, Thornberry asked permission to IMMEDIATELY award the bid to Mofford Electric if Columbia cannot do the work.

**MOTION (by Clancy): To award the lighting replacement bid to Columbia Electric for \$5,729.64—unless they cannot do the work—then award the work to Mofford Electric for \$5,989.00 plus WST. SECONDED (by Rasmussen). Passed Unanimously.**

Roving 4<sup>th</sup> Quarter Board Meeting. The Board, typically, holds one Regular Board Meeting, per quarter, at a location other than Station 91—to provide easier access for the public to attend Board Meetings. Usually, the second meeting of the second month of the quarter is that roving meeting. Chief Koehler asked what Station the Board wanted to host that meeting at. The Board favored Station 94—to ensure that residents on the East side of the Fire District have easier access to the Board—than having to drive to the Fern Prairie Station.

**MOTION (by Clancy): To hold the quarterly “Roving Board Meeting” at Station 94 on November 17<sup>th</sup>. SECONDED (by Rasmussen). Passed Unanimously.**

**LOCAL BOARD FOR VOLUNTEER FIRE FIGHTERS & RESERVE OFFICERS**

Chairman Gary Larson called the Local Board for VFF&ROs Meeting to order at 7:38 PM. There were no items of business to discuss. The Local Board for VFF&ROs Meeting was adjourned at 7:39 PM. The Minutes of the Local Board for VFF&ROs Meeting are filed separately.

**ROUND TABLE**

Annual WFCM Conference – October 22<sup>nd</sup> through 24<sup>th</sup> - Spokane

**EXECUTIVE SESSION:**

There was no Executive Session tonight.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

The meeting was adjourned at 7:40 PM.

The next Regular Board Meeting is scheduled for November 3, 2009 Station 91, 7 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

# EAST COUNTY FIRE & RESCUE

by

\_\_\_\_\_  
Gary Larson, Chairman

Absent \_\_\_\_\_  
Greg Cox, Vice-Chair

\_\_\_\_\_  
John Clancy, Commissioner

Absent \_\_\_\_\_  
Harry Goodnight, Commissioner

\_\_\_\_\_  
Victor Rasmussen, Commissioner

**ATTEST:**

**DISTRICT SEAL:**

---

Scott Koehler, District Secretary